Poor Houses-opening of.

295. Mr. K. M. Ibrahim— With reference to Question No. 63, dated 28th November 193., regarding the opening of Poor Houses in at least all the important towns of the State, will the Government state the further steps they have taken in pursuance of their assurances, "I think it is desirable to have Poor Houses in all the important places.....the Government would note this suggestion and take further steps and see what can be done"?

Mr. P. V. Subramania Ayyar:—In view of the present state of their finances it is not possible for Government to open Poor Houses in all the important towns of the State. Further the discussion in the Council now sitting has gone to show that the system is not appreciated by the begging poor for various reasons, and unless a Regulation compelling them to resort to Poor Houses is made, there will be no good of the existence of Poor Houses.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim:—Sir, is it the position of the Hon'ble Member that he wants to go back on the previous assurance of the Government under reference namely it is desirable to have poor Houses in all the important places?

Mr. P. V. Subramania Ayyar:—In regard to the desirability of having poor Houses Government have no change of policy.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim:—Government says that Poor Houses are necessary. Then, Sir, in as much as this promise was made 10 months previous to the present session may I know what action has been taken?

Mr. P. V. Subramania Ayyar:—Every enquiry is being made as to how the working of Poor Houses is done elsewhere and if the results show that they are successful there our Government also will do their best in introducing Poor Houses.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim:—Sir, can want of funds be adduced as a reason for putting off of the question of poor houses which ought to be one of the primary duties of a progressive administration?

Mr. P. V. Subramania Ayyar:—That is a matter of opinion.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim:—I am only asking for a fact. Am I to take it that the Government have no answer?

Mr. P. V. Subramania Ayyar:—I have answered the point.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim:—Will the Hon'ble Member expedite the realisation of the promise that is under reference?

Mr. P. V. Subramania Ayyar:—As far as possible.

Mr. C. R. Iyyunni:—Does the Government think that some sort of legislation is necessary to compel the beggars to take to poor houses?

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Mr. P. V. Subramania Ayyar:—No off hand reply could be given to this question.

Mr. C. R. Iyyunni:—Is there not a Poor House in Ernakulam? What is the nature of the experience that the Government wants to have?

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim:—Are we to understand from the answers given by the Hon'ble Member that a promise when once given in this House should be kept up only to be rebutted by cogent reasons?

Mr. P. V. Subramania Ayyar:—The promise is kept up to the extent it is possible for the Government.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim:—What is the extent of the possibility of the Government under reference? Does the Government consider this as a breach of responsibility on their part?

Mr. P. V. Subramania Ayyar:—The question does not arise.

Grazing ground for cattle—Thangaloor Village.

296. Mr. P. Raman Menon:— Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(a) whether they are in receipt of a petition signed by the residents of the Thangaloor Village, Trichur Taluk, praying for the establishment of a grazing ground for the cattle of the locality;

(b) if so, what action has been taken in the matter?

Mr. K. Achyuta Menon:— (a) No.

(b) Does not arise.

Mr. P. Raman Menon:—Are there sufficient grazing grounds in these villages?

Mr. K. Achyuta Menon:—I have not enquired into it since no petition was received by me. Anyhow I shall look into the matter and if grazing ground is available, I shall make proper recommendations.

Mr. E. P. Bhaskara Menon:—Has any petition from any village with reference to grazing grounds been received by the Department?

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar:—Are there any grazing grounds in the State fit for cattle?

Mr. K. Achyuta Menon:—There are a number of them.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar:—Where grass grow?

Mr. K. Achyuta Menon:—I have prepared a list myself and I have issued order that if there are any suitable grazing grounds that fact should be brought to my notice.

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